

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W  
-----010136Z 116386 /73  
O 010032Z APR 77  
FM USDEL SECRETARY IN LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 SECTO 03077

NODIS CHEROKEE

FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM SECRETARY VANCE

SECSTATE FOR CHRISTOPHER ONLY  
DEPT PASS WHITE HOUSE FOR DR BREZINSKI

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS) UR, UK, FR  
SUBJECT: MY MEETINGS WITH GERMAN AND BRITISH LEADERS

1. I HAD TWO INTERESTING CONVERSATIONS TODAY -- ONE  
WITH CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT AND FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER,  
WHO SEEMED MOST WORRIED ABOUT EXTERNAL PROBLEMS, AND  
THE OTHER WITH A BRITISH PRIME MINISTER WHO ALSO HAS

WORRIES BUT THEY SEEMED TO BE MAINLY DOMESTIC. THE  
LATTER BELIEVES HE IS ABOUT TO LOSE ANOTHER BY-ELECTION  
THIS EVENING WHICH WILL NARROW HIS ALREADY THIN  
MAJORITY. BOTH HOWEVER REACTED TO MY ACCOUNT OF OUR  
CONVERSATIONS IN MOSCOW BY GIVING THEIR ASSESSMENT  
THAT THIS IS NOT THE END OF THE ROAD ON SALT. BOTH  
EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR OUR ATTENTION TO ALLIANCE  
CONSULTATIONS.

2. OUR TALKS WITH SCHMIDT LASTED ABOUT FOUR HOURS  
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AND COVERED A WIDE VARIETY OF SUBJECTS STARTING WITH  
MY VISIT TO MOSCOW. I FOUND SCHMIDT ANXIOUS TO  
DISCUSS A NUMBER OF MATTERS THAT HAVE BEEN BOTHERING  
HIM FOR SOME TIME. I HAD THE FEELING THAT HE WISHED  
TO GET A LITTLE OF THIS OFF HIS CHEST BEFORE HIS  
CONVERSATION WITH YOU. HE BEGAN BY DESCRIBING HIS  
LONG CAREER IN A VARIETY OF HIGH POLITICAL POSITIONS.

HE STATED THAT, AS BETWEEN OLD FRIENDS, HE WOULD LIKE TO BE OPEN AND FRANK. HIS CONCERNS RELATED TO HEARING CRITICISMS OF HIS POLICIES IN PUBLIC AND IN

THE PRESS WHICH MADE HIS TASK OF COOPERATION WITH US MUCH MORE DIFFICULT. FROM THE LATER CONTEXT OF THE DISCUSSION, I ASSUME THESE RELATE TO OUR EFFORTS TO PERSUADE HIM TO STIMULATE THE GERMAN ECONOMY MORE, THE GERMAN-BRAZILIAN NUCLEAR DEAL AND OUR PRESSURE TO GET GERMAN DECISIONS IN THE DEFENSE AREA.

3. HE ASKED ME TO CONVEY TO YOU HIS SUPPORT FOR YOUR HUMAN RIGHTS STAND, BUT HE ALSO ASKED FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING IF HE PURSUES DIFFERENT METHODS DUE TO THE FACT THAT HE MUST PROTECT THE MILLIONS OF ETHNIC GERMANS WHOM HE HAS BEEN TRYING TO BRING OUT OF THE SOVIET UNION AND EASTERN EUROPE.

4. SCHMIDT IS LOOKING FORWARD TO THE SUMMIT AND TO MEETING YOU. HE IS PARTICULARLY ANXIOUS TO HAVE A LONG BILATERAL MEETING ON ONE OF THE TWO EVENINGS (EITHER THE 7TH OR THE 8TH). HE GAVE ME A PREVIEW OF SOME OF HIS CONCERNS ON THE WORLD ECONOMY. HE FEELS THAT WE ARE NOT OUT OF THE LONGEST WORLD RECESSION

AND THAT WE ARE UNLIKELY TO SEE MUCH IMPROVEMENT BEFORE LATE IN 1978. HE SEES ALL WESTERN POLITICAL LEADERS WEAKENED BY THEIR APPARENT INABILITY TO COPE WITH THESE PROBLEMS. HE ALSO WONDERS WHY THE WEST  
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TAKES A MORAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR DEVELOPING THE ECONOMIES OF THE THIRD WORLD, WHILE LEAVING TO THE SOVIET UNION THE SUPPLY OF ARMS AND THEREFORE THE POLITICAL CREDIT.

5. AT THE VERY END OF OUR CONVERSATION, HE RAISED THE NON-PROLIFERATION ISSUE AND GAVE A LENGTHY PRESENTATION OF HIS VIEWS. I WILL WISH TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER WITH YOU PERSONALLY ON MY RETURN. IN SUM, SCHMIDT SAYS THAT HE MUST GO AHEAD WITH THE LICENSES FOR THE BLUEPRINTS. HE FEELS THAT TO PREVENT A WORSENING OF THE POLITICAL PROBLEM WITH US, HE MUST MAKE HIS ANNOUNCEMENT BEFORE YOU MAKE YOUR ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE US DOMESTIC REPROCESSING POLICY. HE ALSO DOES NOT WISH TO LEAVE THIS PROBLEM UNTIL MAY IN LONDON BECAUSE THIS WOULD UNDULY STRAIN OUR RELATIONS. HE

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S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 SECTO 03077

NODIS CHEROKEE

SAYS HE SHARES OUR OBJECTIVES BUT THAT OUR OBJECTIVES  
WILL NOT BE ACHIEVED IF THE FRG BREAKS TREATIES AND  
AGREEMENTS. HE MADE A SUGGESTION ON HOW TO HANDLE  
THE SITUATION WHICH I WILL DISCUSS ON MY RETURN. I  
OUTLINED TO HIM OUR STRONG CONCERN IN THIS AREA AND  
ASKED THAT HE DO NOTHING UNTIL I HAVE A CHANCE TO  
DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH YOU ON MY RETURN. HE  
PARTICULARLY WISHES TO ISSUE A JOINT OR PARALLEL  
STATEMENT ON NON-PROLIFERATION. I BELIEVE IT WILL BE  
IMPORTANT AND USEFUL TO DO THIS.

6. MY CONVERSATION WITH CALLAGHAN FOCUSED MAINLY  
ON AN ACCOUNT OF OUR MEETING IN MOSCOW. HE AND DAVID  
OWEN WERE VERY SUPPORTIVE AND WERE QUITE SURE THAT  
PROGRESS WOULD BE MADE LATER ON. THEY THOUGHT, AS  
DID SCHMIDT, THAT THERE HAD PROBABLY BEEN A SPLIT IN  
THE POLITBORO ON THIS ISSUE. THE BRITISH SUGGESTED  
THAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN STUDIES COVERED  
BY OUR US-SOVIET WORKING GROUPS. IN FACT, THEY  
THOUGHT SOME OF THE SUBJECTS, LIKE CIVIL DEFENSE,

SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN THE ALLIANCE.

7. AT THE END OF THIS CONVERSATION, CALLAGHAN RAISED  
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THE CONCORDE ISSUE AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE  
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WOULD USE ITS BEST EFFORTS TO  
PERSUADE THE PORT AUTHORITY IN NEW YORK TO ALTER ITS  
POSITION FOLLOWING THE SUBMISSION OF NEW DATA ON  
NOISE. CALLAGHAN ALSO INFORMED ME OF THE BRITISH  
DECISION TO PROCEED WITH NIMROD WHICH HE DESCRIBED  
AS ONE OF THE FEW POPULAR DECISIONS HE HAS TAKEN  
RECENTLY. HE SAID THAT THE BRITISH COULD NOT POST-  
PONE THIS PROGRAM FOR ANOTHER YEAR, WHICH SEEMED  
TO BE THE GERMAN REQUEST. CALLAGHAN ALSO REPORTED  
ON THE COMMON MARKET MEETING IN ROME WHERE HE  
OBTAINED AGREEMENT FOR JENKINS' PRESENCE AT THE  
SUMMIT AND ALSO GOT AGREEMENT ON AN EC POSITION ON  
THE "COMMON FUND." HE DESCRIBED BOTH THESE ACTIONS  
AS MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS.

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## Message Attributes

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